

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Howard Tanner, *et al.*  
Divisional Application of Application No.: 09/108,191  
Filed: July 1, 1998  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE SURGICAL REPAIR OF ANEURYSMS  
Attorney Docket No.: 23660-00610

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.